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EXAMINER

JONES, HEATHER RAE

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed December 30, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant argues that Takimoto fails to disclose "starting a new recording of a program when the detecting means detects a change in the video standard" and "suppressing starting automatically a new recording of a program when the detecting means does not change in the video standard". The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Takimoto is capable of recording both NTSC- and PAL-system video signals (col. 11, lines 61-63). It is well known in the art that one program is not going to be encoded in both the PAL- and NTSC-system, but will be encoded with one system or the other. Therefore, by Takimoto being able to record both systems it is able to record multiple programs without explicitly disclosing this, which is why Koyabu et al. is used to disclose multiple programs on the same recording medium. Furthermore, since Takimoto is able to record two different signals, the video standard is recorded along with the signal in the ID portion (subcode area of the signal – Fig. 3) of the signal (col. 3, lines 64-67 and col. 12, lines 8-11). In order for the subcode to be generated to distinguish which subcode is to be added to the signal then the VTR would inherently have to detect the video standard in order to include the correct subcode with the video signal. Furthermore, once a new video standard is detected a new subcode is generated for that signal along with the VTR using this information in the change of the video standard in order to process the signal

differently for recording in order to comply with the video standard which indicates the start of a new recording. If no change is determined in the video standard then the VTR can continue its recording in the same respect it had recorded the previous frame, thereby suppressing automatically starting a new recording when no change in the video standard has been detected. Therefore, Takimoto meets the claimed limitations and the rejection is maintained.

The Applicant argues that Takimoto fails to disclose The Applicant argues that Takimoto in view of Koyabu et al. fails to disclose finalizing a current recording of a program and start a new recording of a program when the detecting means detects a change in the video standard. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Takimoto discloses detecting a change in the video standard as previously discussed above. However, Takimoto fails to disclose finalizing a recording of a program and starting a new recording after the previous recording is finalized. Koyabu et al. discloses when one of the recordings is finished the recording is finalized by finishing the metadata for the program and if another program is to be recorded the next one is started after the previous recording has been finalized (Fig. 5 – steps SP11-SP13; col. 7, line 66 - col. 8, line 5). Therefore, once Takimoto determines a change in the video standard, which indicates a new program is being recorded as described above the teachings of Koyabu et al. with finalizing the previous recording and then starting the new recording are applied thereby meeting the claimed limitations and the rejection is maintained.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HEATHER R. JONES whose telephone number is (571)272-7368. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thurs.: 7:00 am - 4:30 pm, and every other Fri.: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Heather R Jones
Examiner
Art Unit 2621

HRJ
January 30, 2009

/Thai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621